



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5823**

February Session, 2008

\* \_\_\_\_\_HB05823ED\_APP031908\_\_\_\_\_\*

**AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATION GRANTS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 10-19o of the 2008 supplement to  
2 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
3 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

4 (a) The Commissioner of Education shall establish a program to  
5 provide grants to youth service bureaus in accordance with this  
6 section. Only youth service bureaus which were eligible to receive  
7 grants pursuant to this section for the fiscal year ending June 30, [2007]  
8 2008, or which applied for a grant by June 30, [2007] 2008, with prior  
9 approval of the town's contribution pursuant to subsection (b) of this  
10 section, shall be eligible for a grant pursuant to this section for any  
11 fiscal year commencing on or after July 1, [2007] 2008. Each such youth  
12 service bureau shall receive a grant of fourteen thousand dollars. The  
13 Department of Education may expend an amount not to exceed two  
14 per cent of the amount appropriated for purposes of this section for  
15 administrative expenses. If there are any remaining funds, each such  
16 youth service bureau that was awarded a grant in excess of fifteen  
17 thousand dollars in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995, shall receive a  
18 percentage of such funds. The percentage shall be determined as  
19 follows: For each such grant in excess of fifteen thousand dollars, the  
20 difference between the amount of the grant awarded to the youth

21 service bureau for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995, and fifteen  
22 thousand dollars shall be divided by the difference between the total  
23 amount of the grants awarded to all youth service bureaus that were  
24 awarded grants in excess of fifteen thousand dollars for said fiscal year  
25 and the product of fifteen thousand dollars and the number of such  
26 grants for said fiscal year.

27 Sec. 2. Section 10-262r of the general statutes is repealed and the  
28 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

29 The Department of Education may establish, within available  
30 appropriations, a pilot program for the use of technology in providing  
31 computer-assisted writing, instruction and testing, in [the ninth and  
32 tenth] grades six to twelve, inclusive, in [the] public schools, including  
33 the regional vocational-technical schools. The Commissioner of  
34 Education, for purposes of the program, may award grants to local and  
35 regional boards of education and regional vocational-technical schools  
36 for demonstration projects. Boards of education and vocational-  
37 technical schools seeking to participate in the pilot program shall  
38 apply to the department at such time and in such form as the  
39 commissioner prescribes. The commissioner shall select a diverse  
40 group of participants based on the population, geographic location and  
41 economic characteristics of the school district or school. Local and  
42 regional boards of education and regional vocational-technical schools  
43 awarded grants under the program may use grant funds for expenses  
44 for computer hardware, computer software, professional development,  
45 technical consulting assistance and other related activities. The  
46 Department of Education may retain up to five per cent of the funds  
47 appropriated for purposes of this section for program evaluation,  
48 monitoring and technical assistance.

49 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) There is established an Even  
50 Start Family Literacy Program. Under the program, the Department of  
51 Education may, within available appropriations, provide grants to  
52 assist new or existing local programs conforming with the federal  
53 William F. Goodling Even Start Family Literacy Program pursuant to

54 P.L. 107-110, to expand local family literacy services for children and  
55 their parents or guardians.

56 (b) Applicants for grants provided pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
57 section shall apply annually to the Commissioner of Education at such  
58 time and in such manner as the commissioner prescribes. In  
59 determining whether to award an applicant a grant for the Even Start  
60 Family Literacy Program, the commissioner shall consider, at a  
61 minimum, the following factors: (1) The specific objectives and  
62 description of the applicant's proposed program, (2) the cost of the  
63 applicant's proposed program, (3) the number of children and their  
64 parents or guardians who may benefit from the applicant's proposed  
65 program, (4) progress in achieving indicators of the applicant's  
66 program quality, and (5) whether the applicant's proposed program is  
67 likely to increase the literacy levels of children and their parents or  
68 guardians receiving services under such program.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: |                     |             |
| Section 1   | <i>July 1, 2008</i> | 10-19o(a)   |
| Sec. 2  | <i>July 1, 2008</i> | 10-262r     |
| Sec. 3  | <i>July 1, 2008</i> | New section |

**ED**

*Joint Favorable Subst. C/R*

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